

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A liquid crystal display device of the present invention is composed of a $\lambda/4$ plate 1, a $\lambda/2$ plate 2, and a polarizing plate 3 which are provided in this order from the side of a liquid crystal layer 10. Here, an angle formed between an absorption axis of the polarizing plate 3 and an absorption axis of the $\lambda/2$ plate 2 is about 45° , an in-plane retardation of the $\lambda/2$ plate 2 is set to a value obtained by adding $\lambda/4$ to an in-plane retardation of a retardation plate 1, desirably, the $\lambda/4$ plate 1, and an optical axis of the $\lambda/4$ plate 1 and an optical axis of the $\lambda/2$ plate 2 are orthogonal to each other. In this configuration, the optical axis of the $\lambda/4$ plate 1 is placed at 150° , the optical axis of the $\lambda/2$ plate 2 is placed at 60° , and the absorption axis of the polarizing plate 3 is placed at 15° . This configuration improves display characteristics, that is, performs bright display at a higher contrast ratio and in a wider viewing angle with less dependence on visual field, thereby realizing an excellent reflection-type liquid crystal display device that is very easy to view even in a relatively dim place such as an indoor environment.